



Mirdock Coat of Arms

THE MURDOCK FAMILY

The name Murdock is of Gaelic origin and signifies admiral, sea leader of sea power. The Murdock coat of arms is Argent, two ravens hanging paleways (sable trans-fixed with an arrow through their heads) fessways. The family motto is Omnia Pro Bono (All things for the good). The crest is a raven rising, shot by an arrow through the breast. The coat of arms was registered by Murdock of Camloddan in 1672 and has never been reduced.

Murdock or Murdoch is the Scotch way of spelling the surname. In England and America it is variously spelled Murdow, Murdough and Murdock. For centuries the name has been common in Scotland, especially Ayrshire. John Murdock, born in Ayr, in 1747, and died in 1842, was a distinguished writer, and friend of Robert B. Burns. Another famous Scotch writer was Patrick Murdock, a native of Durnfries. He was educated at Edinburgh and died in 1774. Perhaps the best known member of the family was William Murdock the inventor of coal-gas lighting. He was the second son of John Murdock, a mill-wright at Bellow Mill, near old Cummock, and was born 21 August 1754 and died in 1839. His father and grandfather were gunners in the Royal Artillery. After his removal to England he spelled his name with a K instead of h.

Reverend Alexander Murdock is common of Edinburgh since 1883 and rector of All Saints Church, Edinburgh since 1867.

As early as 1150 branches of this family were found in England, Henry Murdac, who died in 1153, was a famous archbishop of York and belonged to a prominent Yorkshire family. He was enthroned at York, 25 Jan. 1851. He joined the Cistercian order of Monks at Clairvaux.

The second duke of Albany was Murdac or Murdoch.

From Ardath M Webb